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## NEWBORN ENROLLMENT IN DEERS

As a parent of a newborn infant, one of the first decisions you probably made, was deciding on a name for your newborn son or daughter. As a beneficiary of the Department of Defense Military Health System, the second and most important decision you can make is to enroll your newborn infant in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) as soon as possible after birth.

### **Why Enrolling Your Newborn in DEERS is so Important:**

By enrolling your newborn in DEERS, you establish TRICARE eligibility for the infant and avoid potential claims problems or other financial hardships for your family in the future. As a new parent, enrolling your baby in DEERS provides you the comfort of knowing your baby will remain TRICARE eligible and able to receive the essential well baby and pediatric health care he or she needs.

### **Aren't Newborns Already TRICARE Eligible?:**

A newborn infant is covered as a TRICARE Prime beneficiary in DEERS for the first 60 days after birth--as long as one additional family member is enrolled in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Prime Remote. After the initial 60 days, any claim submitted for a newborn will process as TRICARE Standard until the infant is enrolled in DEERS and TRICARE Prime, or the infant's TRICARE Standard eligibility ends. Eligibility for TRICARE Standard benefits ends 365 days after birth for any newborn infant who is not enrolled in DEERS.

### **How to Establish TRICARE Eligibility for a Newborn in DEERS:**

Uniformed Services sponsors are responsible for keeping TRICARE eligibility in DEERS for family members current and up-to-date. To establish TRICARE eligibility for a newborn in DEERS, parents or legal guardians must submit a certificate of "live birth." They must also provide a copy of a verified and approved DD Form 1172 "Application for Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card" signed by the sponsor. For additional information on enrolling a newborn baby in DEERS, parents or guardians may contact or visit the nearest military personnel office, identification (ID) card issuing facility, or contact the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) telephone center at (800) 538-9552. A list of military ID card facilities is available at [www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/](http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/). Additional information on DEERS eligibility is available on the TRICARE Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm).

\*See also: TRICARE: The Basics Fact Sheet  
TRICARE Eligibility Fact Sheet